



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

March 1, 2015

MR. RICHARD A. NILSEN, TREASURER
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF VIRGINIA INC
115 EAST GRACE STREET
RICHMOND, VA 23219-1741

Response Due Date
04/06/2015

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00001305

REFERENCE: 30 DAY POST-GENERAL REPORT (10/16/2014 - 11/24/2014)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 2 item(s):

1. Schedule A supporting Line 12 discloses transfers-in from "National Republican Congressional Committee," "National Republican Senatorial Committee," and "Republican National Committee." Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) reflects payments for "Exempt Party Activity-Campaign mailer" and "Exempt Party Activity-Campaign mailer." Please be advised that a state or local party committee may pay for campaign materials (such as pins, posters, bumper stickers and yard signs) that are distributed by volunteers in connection with activity on behalf of the party's nominees in a general election and for voter drive activity conducted on behalf of the party's Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. Payments for this type of activity are exempt from the definition of a contribution or expenditure if certain conditions are met. The conditions are that no public advertising may be used, including distribution by direct mail (mailings by a commercial vendor or from commercial lists); all funds used for the activity must be permitted under the Act; none of the funds used may have been designated for a particular candidate; and finally, payments for the activity may not be made from transfers-in from the national committee to specifically fund the activity. For further guidance, please refer to 11 CFR §§100.87 and 100.147 and to the Campaign Guide for Party Committees.

If the activity disclosed on your report does not meet the definition of "exempt" activity as described above and if any portion of the expenditures were made

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on behalf of specifically identified candidates, that amount must be disclosed on Schedule B, E or F supporting Line 23, 24 or 25 of the Detailed Summary Page as appropriate. Please amend your report or provide clarifying information.

2. You have made disbursements for "Exempt Party Activity-GOTV digital adver." which you have characterized as exempt activities. In order for an activity to be classified as exempt, it must meet the following conditions: (1) For slate cards and sample ballots: it names at least three candidates running for election to any public office, it is not distributed through public political advertising (including broadcast media, newspapers, magazines, and billboards), the content is limited to the identification of each candidate, the office or position currently held, the office sought and party affiliation, and the costs allocable to federal candidates are paid with permissible funds; (2) For campaign materials: the activity is conducted on behalf of the party's nominees in the general election, the materials are distributed by volunteers--not through public political advertising, the party committee does not use materials purchased by the national party committee or money transferred from the national committee to purchase materials, the party committee does not use funds designated for a particular federal candidate, a payment from a non-federal campaign to help pay for the materials does not exceed its allocated share of the expenses, and the costs allocable to federal candidates are paid with permissible funds; (3) For voter drives: the activity is on behalf of the party's Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, the activity does not involve the use of public political advertising such as television, radio, newspapers, magazines, billboards or direct mail, phone banks are operated by volunteers (although paid professionals may design the system, develop calling instructions and train supervisors), the party committee does not use funds transferred by the national party committee for voter drive activities, the party committee does not use funds designated for a particular federal candidate, and the cost allocable to federal candidates are paid with permissible funds. (11 CFR §§100.80, 100.87, 100.89 and 11 CFR §§100.140, 100.147 and 100.149)

If the activity disclosed on your report does not meet the definition of "exempt" activity as described above, and if any portion of the expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified candidates, this amount must be disclosed on Schedule B, E or F supporting Line 23, 24 or 25 of the Detailed Summary Page as appropriate. Please provide the Commission with a more detailed explanation of these activities.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this

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matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1177.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Jones", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Jones
Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst
Reports Analysis Division